

May 6, 2003

Michael B. Johannesen, Esq.
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Re: Patentability Search "System and Method for Multi-Platform Queue Queries"
Your Ref: 14846-17
Our Ref: SANDLER-20037

Dear Mr. Johannesen:

Further to your instructions on April 24, 2003, a patentability search has been conducted on the above identified subject matter.

Objective:

The objective of the search is to locate references disclosing a system and method that provides a queue view for use in a distributed processing system having a plurality of operational platforms that cooperate to perform various tasks.

Results of the Search:

Your attention is particularly directed to the following:

U.S. Patent Number 5,768,119 issued to Havekost et al. on June 16, 1998 discloses a process control system that includes an alarm and event monitoring and display system for which various users of the system can easily prioritize the alarm and event information that is displayed. The alarm and event configuration is highly flexible and is configured by a user to display particular events in a hierarchical manner, as directed by the user. The user sets a desired alarm priority, selecting high importance alarms for more urgent display and annunciation and rendering a lower display status to less urgent events. At log-on, a particular system user is associated with a display configuration for displaying alarm and event information that is pertinent to that user and the process control system is automatically "primed" with current alarms and initiate process information about new alarm and event occurrences. Many advantages are achieved using the described process control method. One advantage is that alarm information is presented to a user who can best use that information in a manner directed by the user. See column 3, lines 40 - 65.

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U.S. Patent Number 6,046,742 issued to Chari on April 4, 2000 discloses a method for displaying information regarding components in a computer network. The method comprises a plurality of operational parameters about different components in a computer network. The operational parameters are organized into a plurality of hierarchical levels. One embodiment of the method further comprises a plurality of forms which enable the modification of one or more of the operational parameters. Each of the forms correspond to one of the hierarchical levels. One embodiment of the method further comprises a display module existing in a computer. The display module further comprises a first display pane configured to display the hierarchical levels. The first display pane is further configured to enable the selection of one of the hierarchical levels. The display module further comprises a second display pane configured display the form corresponding to the selected hierarchical level. See column 4, lines 40 - 65 and Figs. 1, 6 and 14.

U.S. Patent Number 6184,996 issued to Gase on February 6, 2001 discloses a network having plural client processors 10, 12, . . . etc. that are coupled to the WWW and are thus able to communicate with a network printer 14. Each client processor (i.e., 10, 12, . . .) includes a browser procedure 18 and a server procedure 20. Further, each client processor includes an application 22 which may have a print job ready for submission to printer 14. A client processor (e.g., 12) may wish to have a print job 23 that is present in another client processor (e.g., 10) submitted to printer 14 for printing. In the alternative, a user at a client processor may wish to view the status of print jobs queued on printer 14 and to alter the queue status of one or more such print jobs. Accordingly, printer 14 is also provided with a server procedure 24 and a browser procedure 26. Server procedure 24 provides a print job management function for printer 14 and is further used to respond to request messages from one or more client processors. Browser procedure 26 enables printer 14 to respond to a received URL by accessing, via the WWW, the print job designated by the URL. The URL may designate a print job residing at any client, whether it is the client which originated the message with the URL or any other client. The responses transmitted by browser 26 are formatted in a formatter module 30, using the HTML or any other formatting procedure. More specifically, upon a user at a client processor selecting a particular job in the job's list page, a request message is sent to printer 14 which is received by server 24. Server 24, in turn, queries queue manager 32 for details of the selected job. A job detail page is then constructed, as shown in FIG. 4, with details of the selected job. The job detail page is then dispatched as a response message to the originating client processor. The job detail page enables the originating client processor to exert control over job queue 28 and the details of the specific job shown in the received job detail page. More specifically, by clicking one of the entries on the job detail page, an entry

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can be highlighted and altered. Thus, as shown in FIG. 4, not only is the identity of the job indicated, but its state; the number of pages printed; the URL of the job; the job description; the owner; and the number of copies required. At the bottom of the job detail page are a number of virtual buttons which enable a job entry parameter to be altered. See column 2, line 65 - column 4, line 8.

The following references have been found as being of interest:

<u>Patent Number</u>	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
5,325,527	Cwikowski et al.	06/28/1994
5,553,235	Chen et al.	09/03/1996
5,790,809	Holmes	08/04/1998
5,946,458	Austin et al.	08/31/1999
5,999,179	Kekic et al.	12/07/1999
6,185,613	Lawson et al.	02/06/2001
6,288,790	Yellepeddy et al.	09/11/2001
6,332,161	Sasson	12/18/2001
6,453,127	Wood et al.	09/17/2002
6,470,384	O'Brien et al.	10/22/2002
6,477,590	Habusha et al.	11/05/2002
6,518,983	Grohmann et al.	02/11/2003

Literature

"Strict Read Order Control for a Queing System", spi.org

Job ["Beginning of Viewing Information and Viewing Basic Information about a Print
From 5 Managing Print Queues]", spi.org

" x4queview" spi.org

The field of search was directed to the following areas:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Subclasses</u>
709	203, 224, 230 - 238
707	2, 4, 8, 10
717	124, 125
345	734, 736, 760

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Examiner Kenneth Coulter in art unit 2141 was consulted regarding the areas of search in class 709.

One set of references is enclosed and your disclosure is returned.

If we may be of any further service, please advise.

Thanking you for giving us an opportunity to be of service to you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Israel Agranov', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Israel Agranov, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President

IA/RR/ek

Enclosures